

NEWS RELEASE

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
318 South Sixth Street
Springfield, IL 62701
Tel: 217/492-4450

RODGER A. HEATON
U.S. ATTORNEY
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS



For Immediate Release
December 7, 2006

Contact: Gregory K. Harris
Assistant U.S. Attorney
(217) 492-4450

Grand Jury Charges Carlinville Man with Possession of Methamphetamine with Intent to Distribute

Springfield, IL- Rodger A. Heaton, United States Attorney for the Central District of Illinois, announced that a federal grand jury returned an indictment today charging James J. Denby, Jr., of 11490 Liberty Church Lane, in Carlinville, Illinois, with one count of possession with intent to distribute five grams or more of methamphetamine on November 14, 2006.

Denby was arrested on November 14, 2006, and charged in a federal criminal complaint. According to the affidavit filed in support of the complaint, law enforcement officers were notified of a strong odor of ammonia coming from Denby's residence. During execution of a state search warrant of the property, officers with the South Central Illinois Drug Task Force recovered various amounts of substances containing methamphetamine. In outbuildings on the property, officers recovered various items commonly used in the manufacture of meth including glassware, Drain-O, salt, plastic tubing, pseudoephedrine tablets and a container which tested positive for the presence of anhydrous ammonia.

The Drug Enforcement Administration, Illinois State Police and the South Central Illinois Drug Task Force are investigating the case which is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Gregory K. Harris.

During a detention hearing on November 27, 2006, U.S. Magistrate Judge Byron G. Cudmore ordered Denby be detained in the custody of the U.S. Marshals Service pending trial. If convicted, the statutory penalty for the offense is a minimum five years to 40 years in prison; if a defendant has a prior felony drug conviction, the statutory penalty is a mandatory minimum 10 years to life imprisonment.

Members of the public are reminded that an indictment is merely an accusation; the defendant is presumed innocent unless proven guilty.

###